UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA MONROE DIVISION

STATE OF LOUISIANA ET AL CASE NO. 3:21-CV-03970

VERSUS JUDGE TERRY A. DOUGHTY

XAVIER BECERRA ET AL MAG. JUDGE KAYLA D. MCCLUSKY

MEMORANDUM ORDER

Plaintiff States of Louisiana, Montana, Arizona, Alabama, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Utah, and West Virginia ("Plaintiff States") filed a Complaint [Doc. No. 1] and Motion for Preliminary Injunction [Doc. No. 2] on November 15, 2021. This Court issued a Minute Entry [Doc. No. 5] on November 16, 2021, which set deadlines for Defendants Xavier Becerra, United States Department of Health and Human Services, Chiquita Brooks-Lasure, and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (collectively "Government Defendants") to respond to the Motion for Preliminary Injunction.

The Complaint [Doc. No. 1] and the interim final rule at issue, 86 Fed. Reg. 61555-01, states that all healthcare workers to whom the rule is applied are required to submit to at least one COVID-19 vaccination by December 6, 2021 before they can provide any care, treatment, or other services for the healthcare worker's employer and/or its patients. The interim final rule also requires such healthcare workers to be fully vaccinated by January 4, 2022.

The briefing deadlines previously set forth in the Court's Minute Entry [Doc. No. 5] would surpass the December 6 deadline. Accordingly,

IT IS ORDERED that Plaintiff States promptly serve Government Defendants with the Complaint and Motion for Preliminary Injunction.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Government Defendants file a Response to the Motion for Preliminary Injunction by Friday, November 26, 2021, at 5:00 p.m., CST.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Plaintiff States file a Reply to the Response by Wednesday, December 1, 2021, at 5:00 p.m., CST.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Minute Entry [Doc. No. 5] dated November 16, 2021, is **VACATED**.

MONROE, LOUISIANA, this 17th day of November 2021.

Terry A. Doughty

United States District Judge